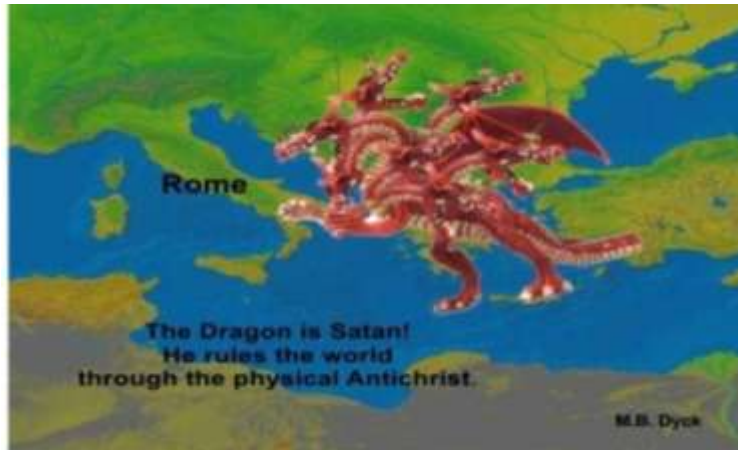


# Understanding for the Book of Revelation as given to the Apostle John. The end times...coming soon...already started? Part 1. Introduction to Major Players in Picture Format.

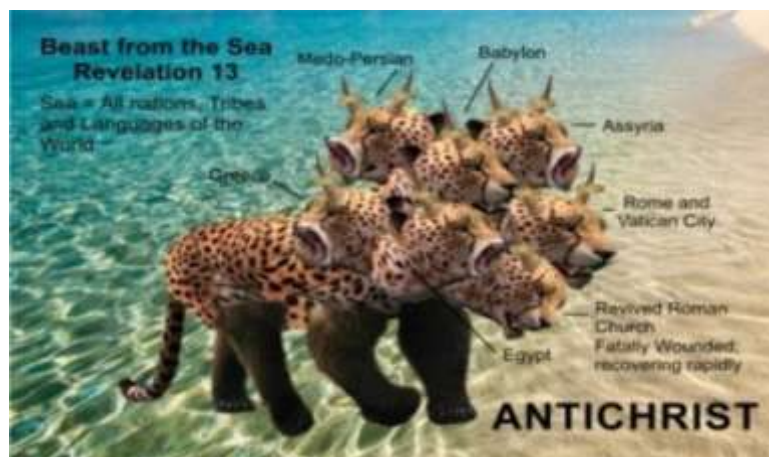
From my book Who's Who in the Revelation Zoo  
By Maralyn B. Dyck

Pictures are generated by me on the computer...My conception of things.



Referred to as the Dragon in Revelation

Above, man, controlled by Satan—later possessed by Satan, the Devil. He is the leader of all the fallen angels; he seeks to destroy Jesus Christ. He is later referred to as the Dragon. He seeks to rule the world through the physical Antichrist who is coming very soon...more about that later.



Beast from the Sea, Rev. 13

The seven heads of this beast represent seven previous governments. Water represents all nations and peoples.

## The Beast out of the Earth in Revelation 13.



Many believe the Beast of the Earth represents the Papacy, False Prophet and Pope...he promotes the Antichrist and represents the Ecclesiastical side of the Vatican in Rome.

You will meet all three mentioned above throughout the remainder of this discussion on the Book of Revelation by John, the cherished disciple of Jesus Christ. He was given this revelation about the end times and told to tell everyone the contents of this revelation. It was included in the Holy Bible and is the fitting end of a history of the peoples of the world...a glorious ending for believers, disaster for those who reject Jesus Christ as Saviour.

*Everything* in this revelation *will happen* and there are currently many signs of them beginning to happen. We will be the generation that sees these things come to pass, hard things and terrible things. For believers in Jesus Christ there are also very wonderful things that will take place.

This revelation is starting to be filled NOW, not years in the future. WATCH the news and match them with the Book of Revelation as these things unfold. You will be able to tell exactly where we are in some cases. The timing of a few other things are not known exactly, but we know ALL these things *will happen* and some VERY SOON.

This presentation is to help you understand what is happening in the world and by following along in the Book of Revelation and all the current news, you will begin to see what I am trying to tell you.

The first three chapters in Revelation is God's message to seven current churches in existence at the time this book was written. They are representative of all the churches in the world today. As we go through a brief examination of the messages given to these churches, I suggest that you carefully take notice and figure out which one YOU are attending. God expresses *His* opinion on each church. Some are very bad, some better and ONE that almost meets with His full approval.

This is God's message to the churches and is very important! It applies today...search your hearts as you read through this section.

God begins with a picture of God on His throne in heaven. Seven candlesticks and seven stars can be seen. These represent the seven churches that will be receiving these messages from John, who is in exile on Patmos Island.

**Rev. 1:3 <sup>amp</sup> Blessed (happy, prosperous, to be admired) is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and who keep the things which are written in it [heeding them and taking them to heart]; for the time of fulfillment is near.**

**Rev. 1: 19 <sup>amp</sup> So write these things which you have seen [in the vision], and the things which are [now happening], and the things which will take place after these things.**

**Message to Church of Ephesus:**

**God begins by listing all their good points and deeds, then adds a BUT: But I have this against you, that you have left your first love [that you first had for Me].**

**Rev. 2:5 <sup>amp</sup> So remember *the heights* from which you have fallen, and repent [change your inner self – your old way of thinking, your sinful behavior – seek God's will] and do the works you did at first [when you first knew Me] otherwise, I will visit you and remove your lampstand (the church, its impact) from its place – unless you repent.**

**Rev. 2:7 <sup>amp</sup> He who has an ear, let him hear *and* heed what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes [the world through believing that Jesus is the Son of God] I will grant [the privilege] to eat [the fruit] from the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God. (Gen 2:9; 3a;24; I John 5:5)**

### Message to Church of Smyrna:

Rev.2:9-11 <sup>amp</sup> I know your suffering and your poverty (but you are rich), and how you are blasphemed *and* slandered by those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan...Fear nothing that you are about to suffer.

Be aware that the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested [in your faith] and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful to the point of death [if you must die for your faith], and I will give you the crown [consisting of life.] (See Rev.3:10-11) ...He who overcomes [the world through believing that Jesus is the Son of God] will not be hurt by the second death (the lake of fire). (I John 5:5; Rev. 20:14)

### Message to Church of Pergamum:

Rev. 12-17 <sup>amp</sup> ...I know where you dwell, [a place] where Satan is enthroned, Yet you are holding fast to My name, and you did not deny My faith even in the days of Antipas, My witness, My faithful one, who was killed (martyred) among you, where Satan dwells...but I have a few things against you, because you have there some [among you] who are holding to the [corrupt] teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, [enticing them] to eat things that had been sacrificed to idols and to commit [acts of sexual] immorality. (Num 25:1, 2; 31:16)

...Therefore repent [change your inner self – your old way of thinking, your sinful behavior – seek God's will]; or else I am coming to you quickly, and I will make war *and* fight against them with the sword of my mouth [in judgment].

...To him who overcomes [the world through believing that Jesus is the Son of God], to him will I give [the privilege of eating] *some* of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone with a new name engraved on the stone which no one knows except the one who receives it. (Ps 78:24; Is 62:2; I John 5:5)

### Message to Church of Thyatira:

Rev. 2:18-29 <sup>amp</sup> ...I know your deeds, your love and faith and service and patient endurance, and that your last deeds are more numerous *and* greater than the first...but I have this [charge] against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess [claiming to be inspired], and she teaches and misleads My bond-servants so that they commit [acts of sexual] immorality and eat food sacrificed to idols. [1 Kin 16:31; 2 Kin 9:22, 30]

I gave her time to repent...but she has no desire to repent of her immorality and refuses to do so...I will throw her on a bed *of sickness*, and those who commit adultery with her, will enter into great anguish, unless they repent of her deeds...I will kill her children (followers) with pestilence, and all the churches will know [without a doubt] that I am He who searches the minds and hearts...and I will give to each one of you [ a reward or judgment] according to your deeds. (Ps 62:12; Jer. 17:10)

But to the rest of you in Thyratira, who do not hold to this teaching, I [Jesus] place no other burden on you, except to hold tightly to what you have until I come...And he who overcomes...and he who keeps My deeds until the end, ...HE SHALL SHEPHERD *and* RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON, AS THE EARTHEN POTS ARE BROKEN IN PIECES, as I also have received *authority* [and power to rule them] from My Father; and I will give him the Morning Star. (Ps 2:8, 9)

Message to Church of Sardis:

Rev. 3:1-13 <sup>amp</sup> ...I know your deeds; you have a name (reputation) that you are alive, but [in reality] you are dead.

Wake up, and strengthen *and* reaffirm what remains [of your faithful commitment to Me] which is about to die; for I have not found [any of] your deeds completed in the sight of My God *or* meeting His requirements. So remember *and* take to heart the lessons you have received and heard.

Keep and obey them, and repent...If you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you...but you still have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes...and they will walk with me in white, because they are worthy...

He who overcomes [the world through believing that Jesus is the Son of God] will accordingly be dressed in white clothing; and I will never blot his name from the Book of Life, and I will confess *and* openly acknowledge his name before my Father and before His angels. [Ps 69:28; Dan. 12:1; Matt. 10:32; I John 5:5]

Message to Church of Philadelphia:

Rev. 3:7-13 <sup>amp</sup> ...These are the words of the Holy One, the True One, He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one will shut, and He who shuts and no one opens: [Isa 22:22]

I know your deeds. See, I have set before you an open door which no one is able to shut, for you have a little power, and have kept My Word, and have not renounced *or* denied My name. [I Cor 16:9; Col 4:3,4]

Because you have kept the word of My endurance [My command to persevere], I will keep you [safe] from the hour of trial, that *hour* which is about to come on the whole [inhabited] world, to test those who live on the earth. [Mark 13:9; 2 Thess 2:1-12]

I am coming quickly. Hold tight what you have, so that no one will take your crown [ by leading you to renounce the faith].

He who overcomes [the world through believing that Jesus is the Son of God], I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God; he will most certainly never be put out of it, and I will write on him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which descends out of heaven from my God, and My [own] new name. [Isa 62:2 Ezek 48:35; I John 5:5]

Message to Church of Laodicea:

Rev. 3:14-22 <sup>amp</sup> ...These are the words of the Amen, the trusted *and* faithful and true Witness, the Beginning and Origin of God's creation...

I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. So because you are lukewarm (spiritually useless), and neither hot nor cold, I will vomit you out of My mouth [rejecting you with disgust].

Because you say, "I am rich, and have prospered *and* grown wealthy, and have need of nothing," and that you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked [without hope and in great need]. [Hos 12:8]

I counsel you to buy from Me gold that has been heated red hot *and* refined by fire so that you may become *truly* rich; and white clothes [representing righteousness] to clothe yourself so that the shame of your nakedness will not be seen; and *healing* salve to put on your eyes so that you may see.

Those whom I love, I rebuke and discipline [showing them their faults and instructing them ] ; so be enthusiastic and repent [change your inner self – your old

**way of thinking, your sinful behavior – seek God’s will.] [Prov 3:11, 12; Heb 5:8; 112:5-7]**

**Behold, I stand at the door [of the church] and *continually* knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with Me.**

**He who overcomes [the world through believing that Jesus is the Son of God], I will grant to him [the privilege] to sit beside Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down beside My Father on His throne. [1 John 5:5]**

**HE WHO HAS AN EAR, LET HIM HEAR *AND* HEED WHAT THE SPIRIT SAYS TO THE CHURCHES.**

**Part 2 will be coming...**